NUMB. CCCCLXXIV.

The SPECTATOR.

Asperitas agrestis & inconcinna. Hor.

Wednesday, September 3. 1712.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

'BEING of the Number of those that 'have lately retired from the Center 'of Business and Pleasure, my Un-'easiness in the Country where I am, 'arises rather from the Society than the Soli-'tude of it. To be oblig'd to receive and return 'Visits from and to a Circle of Neighbours, who 'through Diversity of Age or Inclinations, can nei-'ther be entertaining or serviceable to us, is a vile 'Loss of Time, and a Slavery from which a Man 'should deliver himself, if possible: For why must 'I lose the remaining Part of my Life, because 'they have thrown away the former Part of theirs? 'It is to me an insupportable Affliction, to be tor-'mented with the Narrations of a Set of People, 'who are warm in their Expressions, of the quick 'Relish of that Pleasure, which their Dogs and 'Horses have a more delicate Taste of. I do 'also in my Heart detest and abhor that damnable 'Doctrine and Position of the Necessity of a Bum-'per, though to one's own Toast; for tho' 'tis 'pretended these deep Politicians are used only to 'inspire Gaiety, they certainly drown that Chear-'fulness which would survive a moderate Circu-'lation. If at these Meetings it were left to 'every Stranger either to fill his Glass according 'to his own Inclination, or to make his Retreat 'when he finds he has been sufficiently obedient to 'that of others, these Entertainments would be go-'vern'd with more good Sense, and consequently 'with more good Breeding, than at present they 'are. Indeed where any of the Guests are known 'to measure their Fame or Pleasure by their 'Glass, proper Exhortations might be used to 'these to push their Fortunes in this Sort of Repu-'tation; but where 'tis unseasonably, insisted on to 'a modest Stranger, this Drench may be said to be 'swallow'd with the same Necessity, as if it had 'been tender'd in the Horn for that Purpose, with 'this aggravating Circumstance, that it distresses 'the Entertainer's Guest in the same Degree as it 'relieves his Horses.

'To attend without Impatience an Account of 'Five-barr'd Gates, double Ditches and Precipices, 'and to survey the Orator with desiring Eyes, is 'to me extremely difficult, but absolutely 'necessary to be upon tolerable Terms with 'him: But then the occasional Burstings out into 'Laughter is of all other Accomplishments the most 'requisite. I confess at present I have not that 'Command of these Convulsions, as is necessary 'to be good Company; therefore I beg you 'would publish this Letter, and let me be known all 'at once for a queer Fellow, and avoided. It is 'monstrous to me, that we, who are given to 'Reading and calm Conversation, should ever 'be visited by these Roarers: But they think 'they themselves, as Neighbours, may come into 'our Rooms with the same Right that they and 'their Dogs hunt in our Grounds.

'Your Institution of Clubs I have always ad-'mir'd, in which you constantly endeavour'd the 'Union of the metaphorically Defunct, that is, 'such as are neither serviceable to the busy and 'enterprizing Part of Mankind, nor entertaining 'to the Retir'd and Speculative. There should 'certainly therefore, in each County be establish'd 'a Club of the Persons whose Conversations I 'have describ'd, who for their own private, as 'also the publick Emolument, should exclude, and 'be excluded all other Society. Their Attire 'should be the same with their Huntsmens, and 'none should be admitted into this green Con-'versation-Piece, except he had broke his Collar-'Bone thrice. A broken Rib or two might also 'admit a Man without the least Opposition. The 'President must necessarily have broken his Neck, 'and have been taken up dead once or twice: For 'the more Maims this Brotherhood shall have met 'with, the easier will their Conversation flow and 'keep up; and when any one of these vigorous 'Invalids had finish'd his Narration of the Collar-'Bone, this naturally would introduce the Histo-'ry of the Ribs. Besides, the different Circum-'stances of their Falls and Fractures, would help 'to prolong and diversify their Relations. There 'should also be another Club of such Men, who 'have not succeeded so well in maiming themselves, 'but are however in the constant Pursuit of these 'Accomplishments. I would by no means be sus-'pected by what I have said to traduce in general 'the Body of Fox-hunters; for whilst I look up-'on a reasonable Creature full Speed after a Pack 'of Dogs, by way of Pleasure, and not of Business, 'I shall always make honourable Mention of it.

'But the most irksome Conversation of all others 'I have met with in the Neighbourhood, has been 'among two or three of your Travellers, who have 'overlook'd Men and Manners, and have pass'd 'through *France* and *Italy* with the same Observa-'tion that the Carriers and Stage-Coachmen do 'through *Great-Britain*; that is, their Stops and 'Stages have been regulated according to the Li-'quor they have met with in their Passage. They 'indeed remember the Names of abundance of 'Places, with the particular Fineries of certain 'Churches: But their distinguishing Mark, is cer-'tain Prettinesses of foreign Languages, the Mean-'ing of which they could have better express'd in 'their own. The Entertainment of these fine 'Observers *Shakespear* has described to consist

In talking of the Alps *and* Appennines,
The Pyrenæan, *and the River* Po.

And then concludes with a Sigh,

Now this is worshipful Society.

'I would not be thought in all this to hate 'such honest Creatures as Dogs; I am only unhap-'py that I cannot partake in their Diversions. But 'I love them so well, as Dogs, that I often go with 'my Pockets stuffed with Bread to dispense my Fa-'vours, or make my way thro' them at Neighbours 'Houses. There is in particular a young Hound of 'great Expectation, Vivacity, and Enterprize, that 'attends my Flights where-ever he spies me. This 'Creature observes my Countenance, and behaves 'himself accordingly. His Mirth, his Frolick, 'and Joy upon the Sight of me has been obser-'ved, and I have been gravely desired not to en-'courage him so much, for it spoils his Parts; but 'I think he shews them sufficiently in the several

'Bound-

Boundings, Friskings, and Scourings, when he makes his Court to me: But I foresee in a little Time he and I must keep Company with one another only, for we are fit for no other in these Parts. Having inform'd you how I do pass my Time in the Country where I am, I must proceed to tell you how I would pass it, had I such a Fortune as would put me above the Observance of Ceremony and Custom.

My Scheme of a Country Life then should be as follows. As I am happy in three or four very agreeable Friends, these I would constantly have with me; and the Freedom we took with one another at School and the University, we would maintain and exert upon all Occasions with great Courage. There should be certain Hours of the Day to be employed in Reading, during which Time it should be impossible for any one of us to enter the other's Chamber, unless by Storm. After this we would communicate the Trash or Treasure we had met with, with our own Reflections upon the Matter; the Justness of which we would controvert with good-humour'd Warmth, and never spare one another out of that complaisant Spirit of Conversation, which makes others affirm and deny the same Matter in a Quarter of an Hour. If any of the neighbouring Gentlemen, not of our Turn, should take it in their Heads to visit me, I should look upon these Persons in the same Degree Enemies to my particular State of Happiness, as ever the *French* were to that of the Publick, and I would be at an annual Expence in Spies to observe their Motions. Whenever I should be surpriz'd with a Visit, as I hate Drinking, I would be brisk in swilling Bumpers, upon this Maxim, That 'tis better to trouble others with my Impertinence, than to be troubled my self with theirs. The Necessity of an Infirmary makes me resolve to fall into that Project; and as we should be but five, the Terrors of an involuntary Separation, which our Number can't so well admit of, would make us exert our selves, in Opposition to all the Particulars mentioned in your Institution of that equitable Confinement. This my Way of Life I know would subject me to the Imputation of a morose, covetous, and singular Fellow. These and all other hard Words, with all Manner of insipid Jests, and all other Reproach, would be Matter of Mirth to me and my Friends: Besides, I would destroy the Application of the Epithets Morose and Covetous, by a yearly Relief of my undeserved necessitous Neighbours, and by treating my Friends and Domesticks with an Humanity that should express the Obligation to lie rather on my Side; and as for the Word Singular, I was always of Opinion every Man must be so, to be what one would desire him.

Your very humble Servant,
J. R.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

ABout two Years ago I was called upon by the younger Part of a Country Family, by my Mother's Side related to me, to visit Mr. *Campbell* the dumb Man; for they told me that That was chiefly what brought them to Town, having heard Wonders of him in *Essex*. I, who always wanted Faith in Matters of that Kind, was not easily prevailed on to go, but least they should take it ill, I went with 'em; when, to my Surprize, Mr. *Campbell* related all their past Life, (in short, had not he been prevented, such a Discovery wou'd have come out, as would have ruin'd the next Design of their coming to Town, viz. buying Wedding-Cloaths) Our Names---- tho' he never heard of us before---- and we endeavour'd to conceal --- were as familiar to him as to ourselves. To be sure, Mr. SPECTATOR, he is a very learned and wise Man. Being impatient to know my Fortune, having paid my Respects in a Family *Jacobus*, he told me (after his Manner) among several other things, that in a Year and nine Months I should fall ill of a new Fever, be given over by my Physicians, but shou'd with much Difficulty recover: That the first Time I took the Air afterwards, I shou'd be address'd to by a young Gentleman of a plentiful Fortune, good Sense, and a generous Spirit. Mr. SPECTATOR, he is the purest Man in the World, for all he said is come to pass, and I am the happiest She in *Kent*. I have been in quest of Mr. *Campbell* these three Months, and can't find him out: Now hearing you are a dumb Man too, I thought you might correspond, and be able to tell me something; for I think my self highly obliged to make his Fortune as he has mine. 'Tis very possible your Worship, who has Spies all over this Town, can inform me how to send to him: If you can, I beseech you be as speedy as possible, and you will highly oblige

Your Constant Reader and Admirer,
Dulcibella Thankley.

Ordered, That the Inspector I employ about Wonders, enquire at the Golden Lion, opposite to the Half-Moon Tavern in *Drury-Lane*, into the Merit of this silent Sage, and report accordingly.

WHereas there has been a false Report, That Mr. David Cornwall, who performs the Dexterity on the Cards, the Hen and Egg-Bag, and the Picture-Vaster, were dead; this is to certify all Persons, That they will perform, as usual, during the Time of Southwark Fair, within Two Doors of St. George's Church, and then they go for Holland.

On Thursday will be Publish'd,

Cornelius Nepos; or, The Lives of Illustrious Men: Translated from the Latin by Mr. Broome of St. John's College in Cambridge, and printed finely on a Dutch Leaver Letter, for Bernard Lintott between the two Temple-Gates, by which in a few Days will be published, A new Translation of Quintus Curtius into English; also, An Abridgment of Du Pin's Ecclesiastical History, translated from the French Edition printed at Paris.

Proposals for printing the Memoirs of Philip de Comines: Containing the History of Lewis XI and Charles VIII of France, and of Charles the Bold, Duke of Burgundy, to which Princes he was Secretary: As also the History of Edward IV and Henry VII of England; including that of Europe for almost Half the 15th Century: With several original Treaties, Contracts, Wills, Notes, and Observations; and lastly, the Secret History of Lewis XI, out of a Book called The Scandalous Chronicle; and the Life of the Author prefixed to the Whole, with Notes upon it by the famous Sleidan. Faithfully translated from the late Edition of Monsieur Godefroy, Historiographer Royal of France. To which will be added Remarks on all the Occurrences relating to England, By Mr. Uvedale. Is now in the Press, and almost finished, in order to deliver to the Subscribers at Michaelmas next. All Gentlemen that are willing to encourage so excellent a Work, are desired to send in their Subscriptions by the 18th of this Month, after which Time no Subscriptions will be taken. Proposals may be had, and Subscriptions taken in, by J. Phillips, at the Black Bull over-against the Royal Exchange in Cornhill. The whole Work consists of 75 Sheets, in 2 Vol. 8vo at 10 s. in Quires, 5 s down, and 5 s on Delivery. Those that subscribe for 6, shall have a 7th gratis. There will be but a small Number left, and will be kept punctually afterwards at 12 s. 6 d. in Sheets. At the same Place may be seen a Vol. of this Work printed.

An Infallible Cure for the Stone and Gravel, whether in the Reins or Bladder, by an incomparable Chymical Liquor, which in the most Racking Fits, gives instant ease, and Perfects the Patient from all Pains in the Back, and the Parts so much like the Cholick; dilates the Ureters, makes them slippery that small Stones and Gravel may pass from the Reins to be voided visibly with Urine, without pain; cleanses the Kidneys, Bladder, and all the Urine Passages in an Hour, calculous Matter, certainly takes off all Heat, Pain, and Roughness of Urine, and absolutely breaks and dissolves all large Stones (possible to be dissolved) whether in Kidneys or Bladder, to as entirely to Cure the Distemper; assuredly prevents the Stone in those that are troubled only with Gravel, and for all Disorders of the Reins and Bladder, is a stupendious Remedy, causing delightful Ease, pleasant Rest and perfect Health. Is Sold only at Jacob's Coffee-house against the Angel and Crown Tavern in Threadneedle-street behind the Royal Exchange, at 2 s. 6 d. a Bottle with Directions.

The Volatile Cleanser and Strengthener of the Reins, an Elixir, which brings away visibly by the Urine all Relicks of Secret Injuries, fetching the Reins of all Foulness, Filth, Slime, or Matter that obstructeth the free Passage of the Urine, causes Sharpness of it, or too frequent Occasions to make it; Strangury, Ulcers, &c. tho' of the longest Date, known by Pain and Weakness of the Back, Threads, Skins, Films or Hairs flying about, or Matter settling at the Bottom of the Urine, its strong Smell, &c. that which nothing is more common in Cases. It not only cleanses, but also after a peculiar manner most powerfully strengthens the Reins, recovers their lost Tone, and brings all the Parts and Passages into their right Order in both Sexes. Price half a Guinea a Bottle, with Directions seal'd up, which is generally enough to cure any one Person. To be had at Mr. Lawrence's Toyshop, at the Griffin, the Corner Shop of Bucklersbury in the Poultry.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*.

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